

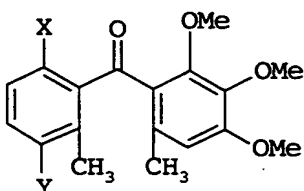
Preparation of benzophenones

Abstract

5

A process for preparing benzophenones of the formula I,

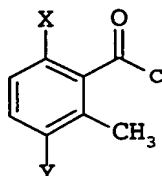
10



I

15 where X may be chlorine, hydroxyl, methoxy or C₁-C₆-alkylcarbonyloxy, and Y may be chlorine or bromine, by reacting an acid chloride of the formula II

20



II

25 where X and Y are as defined above with 3,4,5-trimethoxytoluene, which comprises carrying out the reaction in the presence of

- a) an aromatic hydrocarbon as a diluent and
- 30 b) from 0.01 to 0.2 mol% of an iron catalyst, based on the acid chloride,
- c) at a temperature between 60°C and the boiling point of the particular diluent.

35

40

45